



Florida Department of Health

Special Emphasis Report: Infant and Early Childhood Injury, 2013

Injury is a Leading Cause of Death in Children

- **271** young children and infants died as a result of injury in Florida in 2013.
- **134** (49%) of injury-related deaths among young children were in infants.

Example:

For every child that died, 11 children were hospitalized and 601 were treated and released from an emergency department. Not included were children who received treatment in physician offices or at home.

Figure 1: Annual Injuries among Children Ages 0-5 Years, Florida, 2013

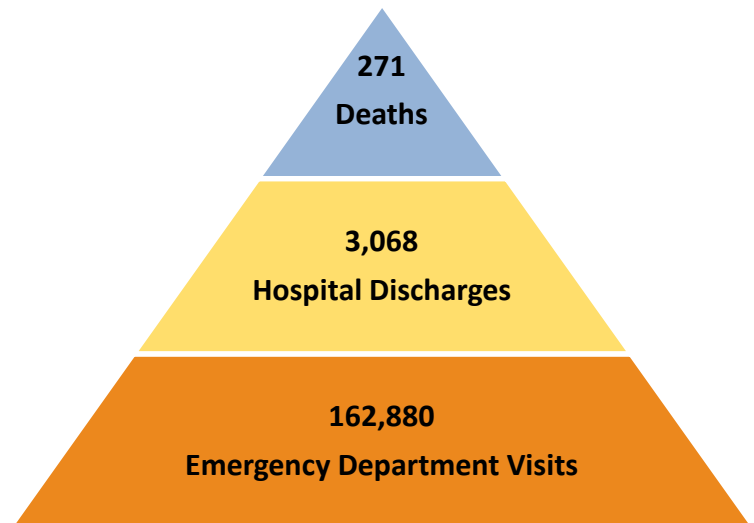
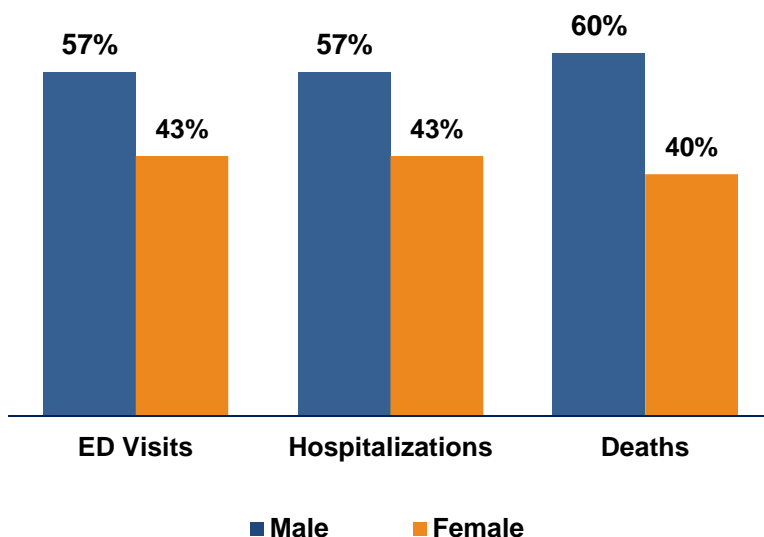


Figure 2: Percent of Injury Deaths, Hospitalizations and Emergency Department Visits among Children Ages 0-5 Years, by Sex, Florida, 2013



Childhood Injury by Sex

- Male children die from, are hospitalized for, and visit the emergency department for injury more than female children. For ED and hospitalization visits, the difference is less pronounced in infants.





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Figure 3: Injury Deaths among Infants Less than 1 Year, Florida, 2013

Injury Deaths in Infants

- The leading cause of death among infants less than 1 year was unintentional suffocation (69%)
- Homicides was the second leading cause of death to this age group (17%)

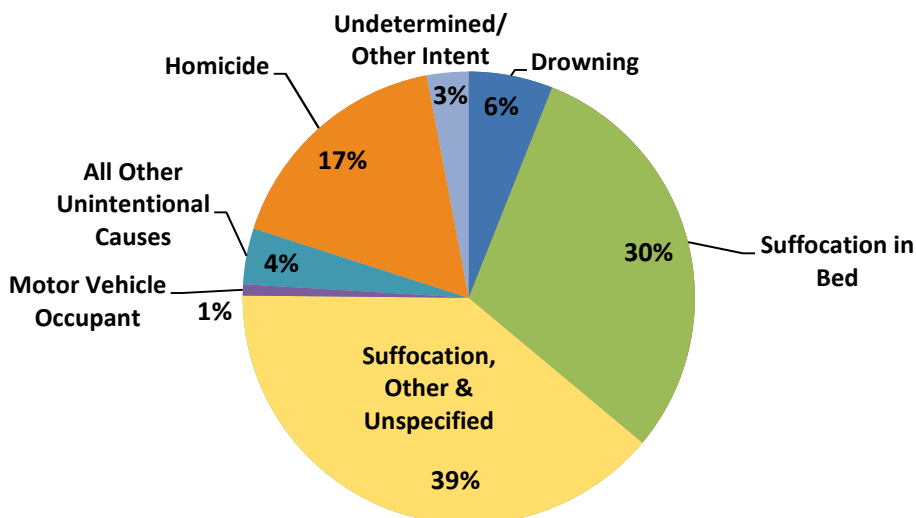
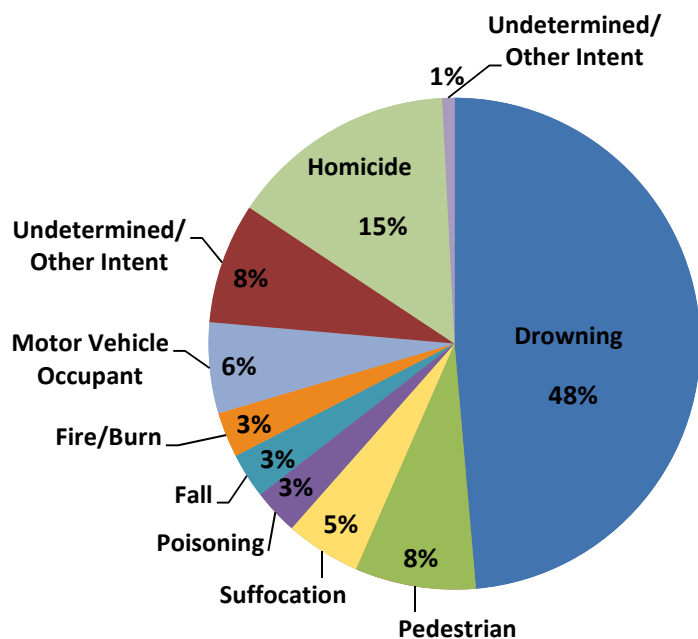


Figure 4: Injury Deaths in Children Ages 1 – 5 Years, Florida, 2013

Injury Deaths in Young Children

- Almost half of young children (48%) aged 1-5 died from unintentional drowning (59 of 120 total)



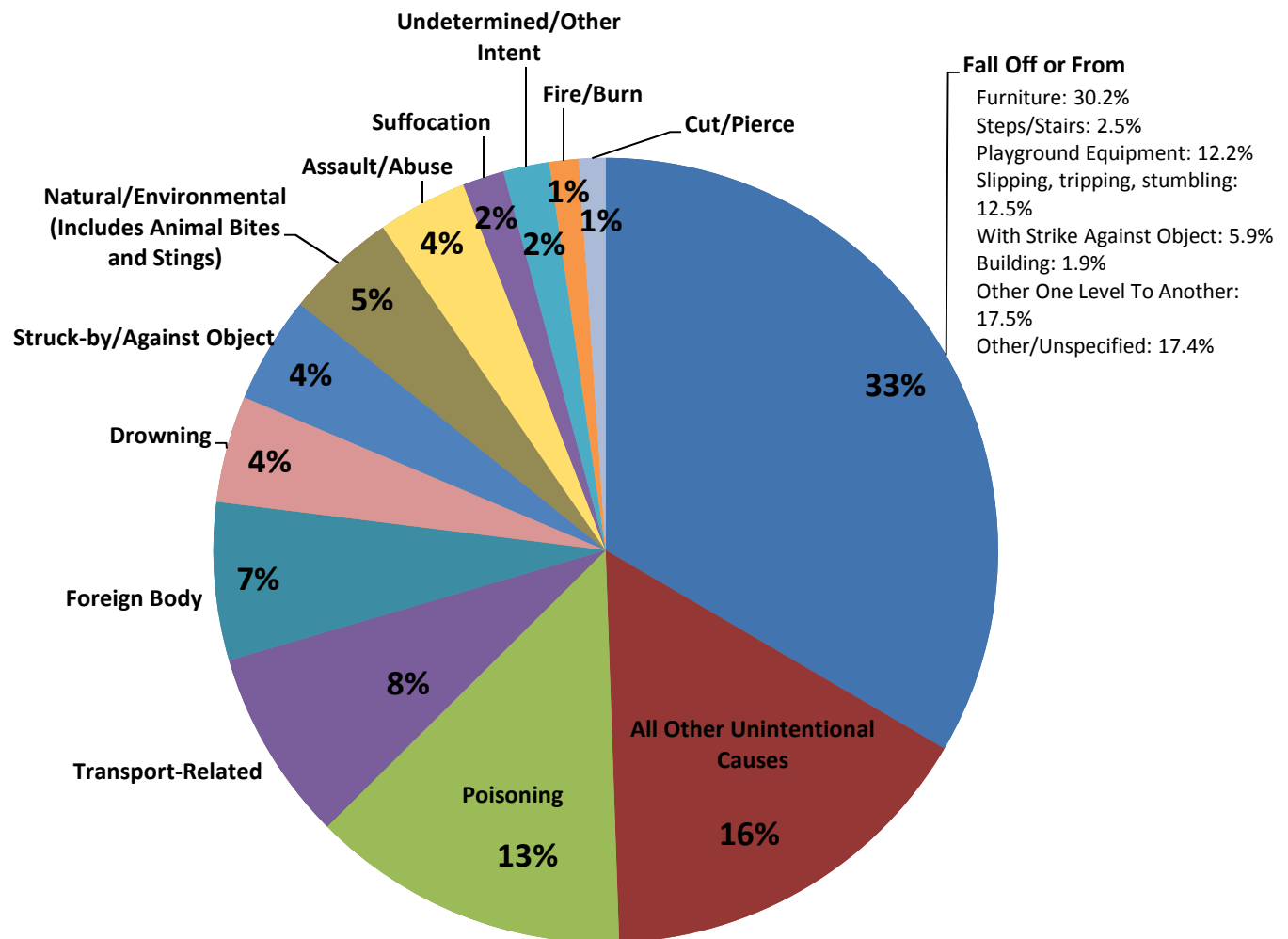


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Injury-Related Hospitalizations

Figure 5: Injury-Related Hospital Discharges among Children Ages 0 – 5 Years, Florida, 2013



Source: 2013 Inpatient Hospital Discharge Data, Florida Agency for Health Care Administration

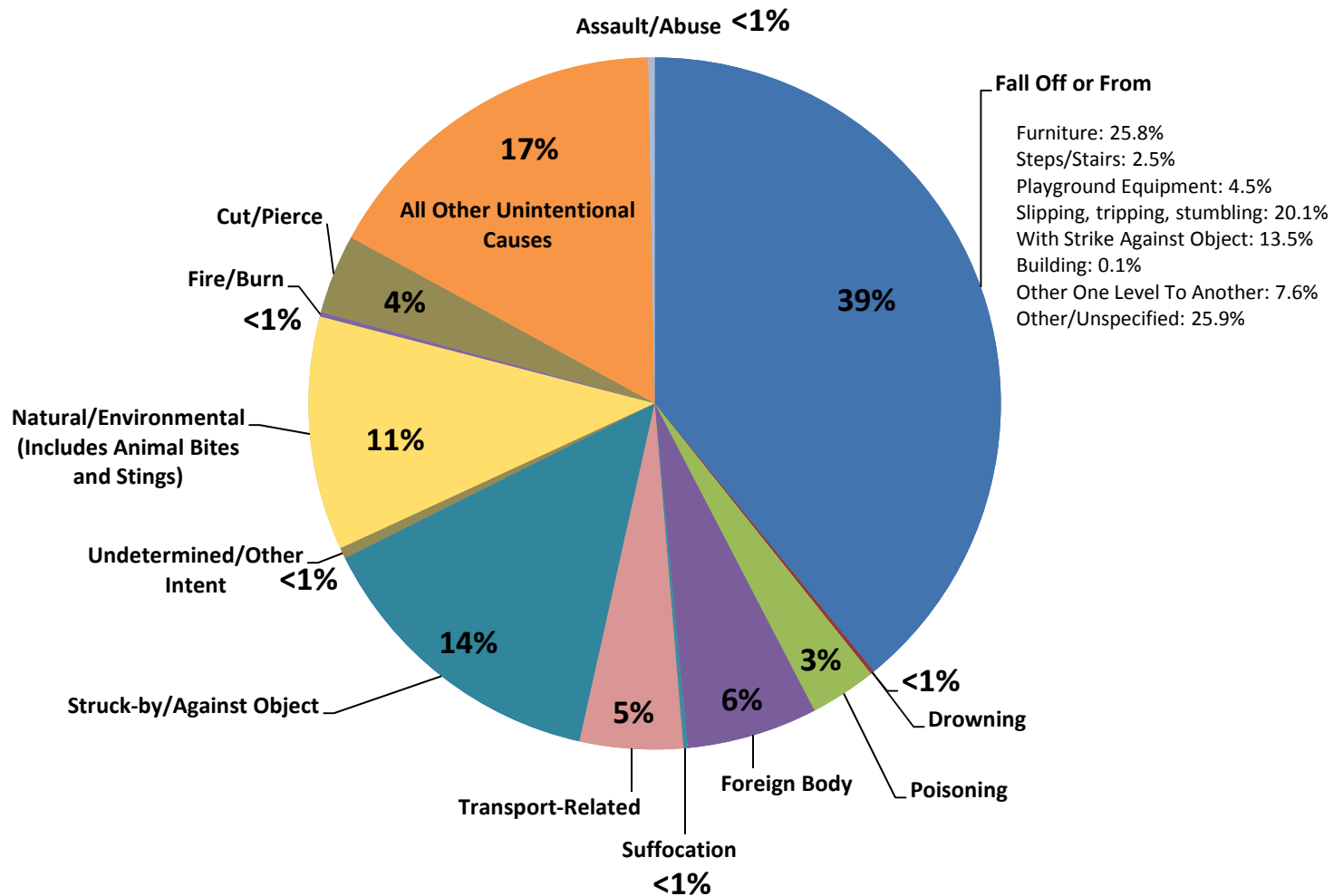


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Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits

Figure 6: Injury-Related Emergency Department Visits among Children Ages 0 – 5 Years, Florida, 2013



Falls accounted for the largest percentage of emergency room visits (39%) among children aged 0 to 5 years.

Source: 2013 Emergency Department Discharge Data, Florida Agency for Health Care Administration



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Table 1: Injury-Related Hospital Discharges and Emergency Department (ED) Visits among Children Ages 0 -5 Years, by Age Group, Florida, 2013

	Infants less than 1 Year		Children Ages 1-5 Years	
	Hospital Discharges	ED Visits	Hospital Discharges	ED Visits
Unintentional Injuries	596	17,591	2,300	143,878
Cut/pierce	1	311	35	5,734
Drowning/submersion	14	30	120	245
Falls (off/from):	284	8,873	742	54,704
Furniture	125	4,949	185	11,438
Steps/stairs	3	131	23	1,478
With strike against object	11	586	49	7,998
Slipping/tripping/stumbling	7	590	121	12,209
Playground equipment	2	50	123	2,807
Building	1	3	18	61
Other fall from one level to another	92	1,263	88	3,552
Other/unspecified	43	1,301	135	15,161
Fire/Burn	1	44	34	321
Foreign Body	42	769	158	9,215
Natural and Environmental	19	1,737	123	15,979
Excessive heat	0	35	1	62
Dog bites	5	96	65	2,326
Other bites/stings/animal injury	4	1,584	50	13,530
All other natural/environmental	10	22	7	61
Poisoning	40	573	362	4,509
Struck-by/against object	24	1,463	112	21,548
Suffocation	29	75	24	276
Transport-related	10	1,042	232	6,793
Motor vehicle (MV)-occupant	10	995	99	4,416
Bicycle/tricycle (MV & non-MV)	0	3	24	1,400
Pedestrian (MV & non-MV)	0	7	69	246
Other transport	0	37	40	731
All other unintentional causes	132	2,674	358	24,554
Assault/Abuse	65	63	49	486
Undetermined/Other Intent	26	110	32	752
Total Injury-Related Cases	687	17,764	2,381	145,116



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Florida Child Injury Prevention Activities

- The Florida Department of Health, Injury Prevention Section is the lead agency for Safe Kids Florida, the state coalition, which provides technical assistance and support to 12 coalitions.
- Eighty-seven percent of Florida's children ages 19 and under live in a county where Safe Kids operates.
- In 2013, the childhood unintentional injury fatality rate in the thirty-four counties with a Safe Kids presence was 20.3 percent lower than the rate in non-Safe Kids counties which corresponds to 142 fewer deaths than expected had the fatality rates been the same.
- Safe Kids Coalition and chapter members reach out to their local communities with injury prevention messages to:
 - Educate adults and children
 - Create safe environments
 - Conduct research
 - Advocate for effective laws



Florida Essentials for Childhood Activities



The WaterproofFL — Pool Safety is Everyone's Responsibility Campaign

emphasizes layers of protection: supervision, barriers, and emergency preparedness, and follows national recommendations. For more information visit <http://www.floridahealth.gov/alternatesites/waterprooffl/partners.html>

The statewide WaterproofFL campaign purchased 4,305 door alarms, 17,650 water watcher tags, 2,000 (each), English and Spanish WaterproofFL posters, and 30,000 English and 12,500 Spanish WaterproofFL brochures. The materials were distributed to 67 county health departments, Children's Medical Service Area Offices, 17 Safe Kids Florida local coalitions, hospitals and non-profit organizations.

Child Drowning Prevention Mini Grants are administered by the Florida Department of Health, Injury Prevention Section. In 2013-2014, seven (7) agencies were awarded a total of \$35,000 to conduct community-level projects to reduce the risk of injury and death from child drowning. The mini grants provided funding for community level education and awareness, media, and swim lesson activities for child drowning prevention. Project highlights included:

- Providing 488 door alarms to home owners who have pools.
- Thirty minutes or more of education to 42,280 children and 54 adults.
- Radio PSAs aired to an estimated subscriber base of 1,440,000; television PSAs aired to an estimated viewership of 1,078,590 and 10 billboards reached an estimated 5,545,710 viewers.
- Health fair education reached 2,625 participants and 9,600 English and Spanish brochures, 679 water watcher lanyards, and 2112 *Stewie the Duck Learns to Swim* books were distributed.
- Three hundred and eight swimming lessons were provided to children.

Notes: Data sources

All injuries are considered unintentional unless specified otherwise. Reference to any commercial entity or product or service on this page should not be construed as an endorsement by the Government of the company or its products or services.

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<http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/prevention/injury-prevention/index.html>

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